



I can't believe it's already December, the term seems to be going very quickly. The children have started practicing for the Christmas celebrations; and we look forward to seeing you at the performances, the dates are listed below and all of the children should have brought home a letter earlier this week about getting tickets for the performances.

Last Saturday the very successful Christmas Fair took place, it was busy right from the beginning, and some events were so popular they sold out completely! Many thanks to the many FoW helpers, without whom the event would not be able to take place. A particular thanks to Hannah for all her organisation before and during the fair.

This week Year 6 enjoyed an Evacuation Day; they walked down to St. Anne's Church and were then 'evacuated' to various families. The children all looked great dressed in clothes from the day, carrying their gas masks, they behaved brilliantly and really enjoyed taking part. Many thanks to all of the staff and parents/carers who took part, they also dressed up and were in role for the trip.

As the weather is getting colder please could you remind children to bring a coat (clearly labelled) to school.

Extreme Weather

Should we need to need to close the school due to extreme weather, you will be able to find this information out by looking on the school website: <http://wallandsschool.org/> There will be an announcement posted as soon as possible after the decision to close the school has been made. In addition a list of school closures will be posted on the East Sussex County Council website: <https://apps.eastsussex.gov.uk/educationandlearning/schools/schoolclosures/> East Sussex radio stations will use this list to broadcast closures.

Reverse Advent Calendar

After the success last year of the Reverse Advent calendar, we have decided to do this once again. The idea is that instead of getting a picture or chocolate each day during Advent, people give a food donation during the period to the Food Bank at Landport. Donations can be anything from pasta and rice to biscuits and cereal or any other non-perishable food such as tins of meat, fish and vegetables or tea, coffee and sugar. Toiletries or baby food are also welcome. There will be a big Christmas-wrapped open box where donations can be placed in the reception area and it will run from Monday 4th December to Friday 15th December, to represent the 12 days of Christmas. Thanks in advance for all your support with this.

Aviva Community Fund

We found out on Tuesday this week that our FOW application to secure additional funding to improve our playgrounds has successfully reached the finals in the Aviva Community Fund. A massive thanks to all of you who voted. We finished with over 8200 votes! We now know that there were over 5.5 million votes cast for over 1700 different projects submitted to Aviva. So we have done fantastically well to get this far. Our application is now being reviewed by a panel of judges and we find out in mid January whether we have secured a grant of between £10,000 and £25,000. Watch this space!

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 12th December	2pm Reception and KS1 Christmas Celebration
Wednesday 13th December	9.30am Reception and KS1 Christmas Celebration
Thursday 14th December	Year 3/ 4 Christmas Celebration - 2pm and 7pm
Monday 18th December	Year 5/6 Christmas Celebration - 2pm and 7pm
Tuesday 19th December	Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 20 th December	Last day of term
Tuesday 2nd January	INSET DAY
Wednesday 3rd January	INSET DAY
Thursday 4th January	First day of Term 3
Monday 4 th June – Friday 8 th June	Year 6 Carroty Wood residential

Withdrawal from learning form (available from the office)

Please can we remind you that if your child has a medical appointment you need to complete this form together with a copy of the appointment card and hand in to the office 10 days beforehand, thank you.

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Lewes Fire Station Open Evening Thursday 7th December 3.00 pm – 5.30 pm

Meet the Governors

Fiona Large was appointed as the Deputy Headteacher at Wallands in September 2017. For the previous 10 years she worked for East Sussex Local Authority, first as a teaching and learning consultant and then as a manager leading school improvement projects. She has been a primary teacher for 13 years in Essex and in East Sussex, teaching the whole primary age range.



Sarah Neels became Parent Governor in 2016 and has a son who attends the Speech and Language Unit. Sarah is the Parish Clerk of St Ann (Without), the Co-Chair of Nevill Residents Association, and Joint Housing Secretary on the Lewes Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group. Sarah has a background in the Voluntary Sector, Fundraising and Community Liaison.

Transporting for events

Wallands have participated in quite a few events in the past week or so, we are very aware we couldn't go without the repeated help from parents for transport and would like to say it is appreciated very much. Mrs Taylor would also like to say once you have filled in all the relevant paperwork and provided your sharing code (excluding any changes) your paperwork is valid for 3 months.

Cross Country

Last week 10 girls and 10 boys represented the school at the Lewes Primary Schools Cross Country competition held at Priory fields, it was very well attended with 74 boys and 68 girls running, the top 15 finishers in each race will be invited to represent the area in the South Downs competition on 11th January. I'm delighted to say we have 8 children going through to the next stage:

Solomon Mitchell (Y6) 2nd, Martha Weisskopf – Strange (Y6) 2nd, Olivier Szala (Y6) 7th, Jasmine Bryce (Y6) 5th Isaac Tarafder (Y5) 13th, Esme Stephenson (Y5) 10th and Daisy McDonald (Y6) 14th.

Mrs Taylor reported back on how impressed she was with the attitude of the children who all displayed stamina, determination and perseverance. Overall our first 4 children home (including Harry Walsh Black 31st) all contributed towards our teams points, resulting in the boys finishing second and the girls first. Congratulations to all involved, thank you also for all the parental support.

Football League

The Football league continued this week, with children from football club representing the school at the 3G, Miss Emery was very impressed with the children's sportsmanship and attitude which resulted in three confident wins. Well done to those involved the league will continue next year.

Indoor Athletics

After our outdoor athletics season in the summer term, we also enter into the Y5/6 School Games Sportshall Indoor Athletics competition held at Hailsham College. This is a large two day event with 16 schools participating from all over the area. Our team of 19 children all really enjoyed the afternoon representing the school in various track and field events, the children displayed courage in overcoming anxieties in being involved in such a large competition. The children represented the school well, demonstrating excellent sportsmanship and support of one another. We are eagerly awaiting the results to be announced!

Chess

Gary McCulloch, who runs our chess club identified a team to represent the school at the Sussex Primary Cup, this is organised in localities. We were drawn to play Rocks Park B and Blackboys A. Brian Stockham, a Sussex Chess organiser was impressed with the play produced in the afternoon and I am pleased to say that we finished first, we will play the next round in the new year. Solomon Mitchell, Jacob Morris, Will Smythes & George Vinton were all complimented on their behaviour, manners and attitude, well done boys.

Lewes Netball

Lewes Netball club are calling out for Year 6 girls and boys to go and train, 7 - 8pm Monday nights at Southdown club, Lewes. All abilities welcome. Further details can be found at www.lewesnetballclub.co.uk

Debbie Collis
Headteacher